THE WASHINGTON OFFICE ON AFRICA

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Dear Friends,

The Washington Office on Africa (WOA) is monitoring the escalating violence in South Africa and we are making an effort to point out the South African government's complicity in the violence to counter the media image.

Many Members of Congress have expressed their support for de Klerk and recommend a strengthening of ties with the current government. We are encouraging Members of Congress to hold off on their support and are calling for remaining sanctions to stay in place until a transition to majority rule has actually been realized. We recognize that the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) is the instrument for this change, support its efforts and oppose the current government's tactics to continue dominating this process. Our mailings also have called explicitly for the release of all remaining political prisoners.

The plight of prisoners of conscience are not unnoticed by this organization. We will continue our campaign against the ongoing institutional violence in South Africa.

Yours in solidarity,

Imani Countess Acting Director

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